

FY-13 STUDY OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTE (SUSI) FOR SECONDARY EDUCATORS.

This is to announce the call for nominations for FY-13 Study of the United States Institutes (SUSI) for Secondary Educators. The Program is a **non-degree** program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

INSTITUTE DESCRIPTION: This Program will take place in the United States, for six weeks beginning in mid-June 2013 and will provide two multinational groups of 30 secondary educators each (English teachers, teacher trainers, curriculum developers, textbook writers, Ministry of Education officials, etc.) with a deeper understanding of U.S. society, education, and culture, past and present.

The programs will be organized around a central theme or themes in U.S. civilization and will have a strong contemporary component. Through a combination of traditional, multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches, the programs will elucidate the history and evolution of U.S. educational institutions and values. The programs also serve to illuminate contemporary political, social, and economic debates in American society. **The ultimate goal is to strengthen curricula and to improve the quality of teaching about the United States in secondary schools abroad.**

Specific program information will be posted on the ECA/A/E/USS website as soon as it becomes available. In the meantime, prospective applicants are encouraged to visit this website to obtain general information about the FY-12 Institutes at: <http://exchanges.state.gov/academicexchanges/scholars.html>

3. Other Essential Program Information:

A. Program Funding: ECA/A/E/USS will cover all participant costs, including: program administration, international travel, domestic travel and ground transportation in the U.S., book, cultural, mailing and incidental allowances, housing and subsistence.

B. Housing and Meal Arrangements: Typically, participants will have a private room with a shared bathroom during the residency portion (four weeks) of the institute, and will have to share a hotel room during the study tour (up to two weeks). Housing will usually be in college or university owned housing. Most meals will be provided at campus facilities, though participants may have access to a kitchen to cook some meals on their own. It is important that these arrangements be made clear to nominees and that they are comfortable with sharing a hotel room with another participant for up to two weeks. Full details will be provided once the grant has been approved.

C. Health Insurance: All participants will receive the Department of State's coverage for the duration of the program. Pre-existing conditions are not covered.

D. Program Requirements and Restrictions: Participants are expected to participate fully in the program. They are expected to attend all lectures and organized activities, and

complete assigned readings. Family members and/or friends cannot accompany participants on any part of the program. Please note that teaching methodology and pedagogical methods will not be addressed formally in the institute. Candidates should be made aware that the institute is very intensive and that there will be little time for personal pursuits unrelated to the program. The institute should not be viewed as a research program. It is important that these requirements and restrictions be made clear to all candidates before nominations are submitted.

4. Candidate Description and Qualifications:

A. Candidates should be mid-career, typically between the ages of 30-50, highly-motivated and experienced secondary educators. The ideal candidate will be a secondary teacher, teacher trainer, curriculum developer, textbook writer, or other related professional with responsibility for secondary education who is seeking to introduce or enhance aspects of U.S. studies into his/her curricula.

B. The ideal candidate will also be an experienced professional with little or no prior experience in the United States, whose home institution is seeking to introduce aspects of U.S. studies into its curricula, to develop new courses in the subject of the institute, to enhance and update existing courses on the United States, or to offer specialized seminars/workshops for professionals in U.S. Studies. In this respect, while the nominee's scholarly and professional credentials are an important consideration, an equally important factor is how participation in the institute will enhance course offerings in U.S. Studies at the nominee's home institution.

C. Candidates should be willing and able to participate fully in an intensive post-graduate level academic program and study tour. While senior educators are eligible applicants, we will give first consideration to younger and mid-career professionals, and to persons who are likely to be comfortable with campus life and an active program schedule.

5. Other Factors for Consideration: Please be advised that the Study of the United States Institutes is highly competitive. We recommend that the Schools send in **only one nomination** for the institute. Certain factors will be used in selecting participants from among the nominations. We would like to emphasize that the clarity with which schools address each of these factors strongly affects a candidate's chance of selection.

A. Secondary School Justification: The justification statement is a critical portion of the nomination, as it offers the secondary school the opportunity to provide specific reasons why the participation of a nominee is particularly desirable in terms of enhancing the study of the United States at the home institution, or more broadly, in the home country. In the school's view, for example, would the nomination serve to strengthen an already established faculty, or is it intended to give a boost to a fledgling program? Is the nominee a leader within his or her field who is in a unique position to have a significant and immediate impact on curricular development, or is the nominee a younger professional with exceptional promise whose participation is likely to result in a substantial benefit to their home institution in the long run? Schools are strongly encouraged to describe the role that

the nominee's home institution plays in the country's educational framework. Why, in short, does the nomination matter? The justification statement must be especially detailed and it should address these and other relevant issues noted in paragraph 6-S below.

B. Candidate Statement: In order to get a better sense of potential participants' motivations and goals, PAS requests that each candidate provide a detailed personal statement (at least one page) indicating why he or she is interested in participating in the program and what he or she expects to get out of the experience. They should describe how their participation would contribute to their general professional development and their teaching of U.S. Studies (for example: enhanced knowledge/expertise, new curriculum ideas, career advancement, publications, networking opportunities). How might they share their experience with others at home both in their institution and community? What else should we know about them?

C. English Language Ability: It is imperative that all candidates demonstrate English language fluency. Institutes are rigorous and demanding programs; participants will be expected to handle substantial reading assignments in English and to be full and active participants in all seminar and panel discussions. English fluency is vital to a successful experience in the Institute, both for your participant and participants from other countries.

D. Priority Consideration: Priority will be given to candidates who have firm plans to enhance, update or develop courses and/or educational materials with a U.S. Studies focus or component, who have limited experience in the United States, and who have special interest in the program subject areas as demonstrated through past scholarship, accomplishments, and professional duties. In addition, PAS makes every effort to have both a geographic and gender balance in the makeup of the participants in the Institute.

6. Nomination Format: Please submit candidate nominations by email by 12 noon on Monday, December 3, 2012. The email nomination should be an attachment in MS-word format, Courier new font. The font size should be 12 point. Please use single line spacing and send it via email to culturallagos@state.gov OR culturalabuja@state.gov

Please note that we will only accept nominations submitted electronically by email. Hard-copy applications will not be accepted. Nominations must follow the format below. It is essential that items A-F are included and completely accurate.

A. Title of Institute

B. Nominees Full Name: Nominees names should match his/her passport and should be presented in the following order: Prefix (Dr., Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss), Last Name(s),

First Name, Middle Name.

C. Gender

D. Date of Birth (please spell out Month, Day, Year)

E. Birth City

F. Birth Country

G. Country(ies) of Citizenship: Primary and, if applicable, secondary country

H. Country of Residence

I. Medical, Physical, Dietary or other Personal Considerations: Please state if the candidate has any existing medical conditions or is currently taking any prescription medication. This will not affect candidate selection, but will enable the host institution to make any necessary accommodations.

J. Candidate Contact Information: Home Address, City, Home State/Province, Home Country, E-mail, and Telephone.

K. Current Position/Title, Institutional Name, and Country

For "Position Type," please select one from among the following: 1) Senior Executive, President, Government

Minister, etc.; 2) Junior Executive, Vice President, Dean, Government Advisor, etc.; 3) Professor, Editor,

Officer, Director, etc.; 4) Associate Professor, Senior Researcher, Senior Staff, etc.; 5) Assistant Professor,

Assistant Editor, Coordinator, Staff; 6) Lecturer, Teacher, Consultant; 7) Teaching Assistant, Instructor; or, 8) Other.

L. Work Experience, including previous positions and titles, and the approximate dates of employment.

M. Education, and Academic and Professional Training, including degree earned and fields of specialization. Degrees listed should reflect the closest U.S. equivalent.

N. Active Professional Memberships. Please select from among the following position types to describe the level

of the candidate's involvement with the organizations listed; 1) President, Board Chairperson, Director; 2)

Board Member; 3) Editorial Staff, Officer; 4) Contributing Member; 5) Member.

O. Publications: Publications should include the publication year, type of publication, title, and publisher. All foreign titles should be translated into English. (Maximum ten publications) To identify the publication type, please choose from among the following

options: 1) Book; 2) Edited volume (as primary or co-editor); 3) Book chapter; 4) Journal article; 5) Newspaper/ online article; or, 6) Conference/ University/ Government working paper.

P. Previous Experience in the United States: Please list all trips the candidate has made to the United States and include approximate dates and the reason for travel.

Q. Family Residing in the United States: Please list any immediate family members who currently are residing in the United States, including city and state.

R. Evidence of English Fluency (e.g. personal interview, test score, etc.)

S. Professional Responsibilities:

1. Current Courses Taught- Should include the course title, level of student (Ph.D., M.A., Undergraduate, High School), number of hours per term/semester, number of students, and the estimated percent of U.S. studies content.

2. Current Student Advising- Should include the number of students advised who are studying U.S. related topics, level of students (Ph.D., M.A., Undergraduate, High School), and the number of advising hours.

3. Other Potential Outcomes- Please select all of the likely potential outcomes that might result from the candidate's participation in this institute: 1) Update Existing Course; 2) Create New Course; 3) Create New Degree Program; 4) University Curriculum Redesign; 5) National Curriculum Redesign; 6) New Research Project; 7) New Publication; 8) Professional Promotion; 9) Government or Ministry Policy; 10) New Professional Organization; 11) New Institutional Linkages; 12) Raise Institutional Profile.

T. Personal Essays to be written by nominees, limit 5,000 characters each.

1. Please discuss your professional responsibilities in greater detail, including how attending this Institute would help you achieve the "Other Potential Outcomes" you have checked above; and

2. Please discuss how your participation would enhance this Institute, based either upon your personal and professional experience or upon the current state of U.S. studies in your home country.

U. Secondary School Officer (the person whom we should contact with all inquiries about the nomination): Name, Complete Mailing Address, E-mail, Telephone, Fax

7. Action Requested: Secondary schools are invited to submit ONE candidate nomination for this institute. Nomination emails should be submitted in the format provided in paragraph 6 above to program officer: culturallagos@state.gov or culturalabuja@state.gov no later than 12 noon on **Monday, December 3, 2012**. Schools will be notified regarding selection or non-selection of candidates by mid-February 2013.